UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/718,541	11/24/2003	Hung-Yang Chang	00280756AA	1270

	EXAMINER
30743 7590 01/16/2007 WHITHAM, CURTIS & CHRISTOFFERSON & COOK, P.C. 11491 SUNSET HILLS ROAD SUITE 340 RESTON, VA 20190	DAM, KIM LYNN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2112	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/16/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 10/06)

		Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary		10/718,541	CHANG ET AL.
		Examiner	Art Unit	
		Kim-Lynn Dam	2112	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>*24 November 2003*</u>.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL.** 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>*1-17*</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>*1-17*</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>*24 November 2003*</u> is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This office action is in response to the application filed on 11/24/03.

2.   Claims 1-17 have been examined and are pending.

Specification

3.   The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Under Cross Reference to Related Applications, applicant is advised to provide

the serial number and status of the US application.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, because the claim recites,

"wherein prior to the step of monitoring, further comprising the steps of: defining

collaboration spaces; and associating collaboration spaces with one or more Web

documents, topics and meta data. According to the specification, the step of monitoring

must occur *before* defining collaboration spaces and associating collaboration spaces

with one or more Web documents, topics and meta data (Page 12, lines 15-25; Figure

8). Therefore, it would be impossible to define collaboration spaces and associate the

collaboration spaces with one or more Web documents without first monitoring the

user's browsing activity. The claim recites "wherein prior to the step of monitoring,

further comprising the steps of:", which is unclear. Applicant is advised to amend the

claim in order to clarify the meaning of the claim.

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph, because there is no

support for the claim limitations in the specification. In claim 12, the term "life cycle" is

not mentioned in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6.   Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Inala et al. (USPN 6,442,590) in view of Lee et al. (USPN 7,133,895).

Regarding claim 1, Inala disclosed a method for collaborative Web browsing,

comprising the steps of:

defining a collaboration toolbar and displaying the collaboration toolbar on a user

interface (UI), the collaboration toolbar including a user UI components to list related

collaboration spaces, and list related links (Figure 2; Column 8, line 62 to Column 9, line

6; Column 10, lines 50-57);

defining a collaboration co-browser which is displayed on the UI (Figure 2, item 38; Column 8, lines 17-18);

monitoring a user's browsing activity (Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-52); and

mining browsed content to determine page, topic or meta data intent (Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-52; Column 14, lines 58-64).

Inala does not specifically disclose the collaboration toolbar including a user UI components to logon/logoff, manage collaboration spaces. However, Lee disclosed the above limitation (Figure 2, 3, and 15; Column 8, lines 25-32). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Inala's system by incorporating the teachings of Lee for the purpose of allowing a user to efficiently control their participation in collaboration sessions (Column 8 lines 29-30 and 33-41).

Regarding claim 2, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed wherein upon monitoring the user's browsing activity, the step of mining browsed content is performed to determine an appropriate set of related collaboration elements of an appropriately related collaboration space to the browsed content (Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-52 and line 62 to Column 9, line 6; Column 14, lines 58-64).

Regarding claim 3, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed wherein upon mining browsed content, the step of monitoring browsing activity

populates the collaboration toolbar with the appropriately related collaboration elements

(Figure 2; Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-52 and line 62 to Column 9, line 6).

Regarding claim 4, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed

the step of monitoring, further comprising the steps of:

      defining collaboration spaces; and

      associating collaboration spaces with one or more Web documents, topics and

meta data (Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-52 and line 62 to Column 9, line

6; Column 14, lines 58-64).

Regarding claim 5, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed

wherein upon user selection of an appropriately related collaboration space from the

toolbar, further comprising the step of rendering by the collaboration co-browser a

collaboration space related to browser context (Figure 2, item 38).

Regarding claim 6, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed

the step of allowing a user to instantiate collaboration operations from the collaboration

co-browser (Figure 2, item 41 "control panel"; Column 8, line 62 to Column 9, line 6).

Regarding claim 7, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed

the step of augmenting by the collaboration co-browser a Web browser and displaying

collaboration elements of an appropriate collaboration space corresponding to the

user's monitored browsing activity (Figure 2; Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-

52 and line 62 to Column 9, line 6).

Regarding claim 8, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed

the steps of:

defining collaboration spaces (Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-52;

Column 14, lines 58-64);

associating collaboration spaces with one or more Web documents, topics and

meta data (Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-52; Column 14, lines 58-64); and

rendering by the collaboration co-browser a collaboration space related to

browser context (Figure 2, item 38).

Regarding claim 9, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed

the step of augmenting by the collaboration co-browser a Web browser and displaying

collaboration elements of the rendered collaboration space corresponding to the user's

monitored browsing activity (Figure 2; Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-52 and

line 62 to Column 9, line 6).

Regarding claim 10, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed

the step of allowing a user to instantiate collaboration operations from the collaboration

co-browser (Figure 2, item 41 "control panel"; Column 8, line 62 to Column 9, line 6).

Regarding claim 11, Inala disclosed a system for collaborative Web browsing,

comprising:

a collaboration toolbar component which generates a collaboration toolbar

display on a user interface (UI), the collaboration toolbar including a list box of related

collaboration spaces, and a list box of related links (Figure 2; Column 8, line 62 to

Column 9, line 6; Column 10, lines 50-57);

a collaboration co-browser component which generates a collaboration co-

browser display on the UI when a user logons on (Figure 2, item 38; Column 8, lines 17-

18);

a monitor that observes a user's browsing activity, the collaboration co-browser

component responding to the monitor and displaying collaboration elements of an

appropriate collaboration space (Figure 2; Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-52

and line 62 to Column 9, line 6); and

a mining component to mine the monitored browser content (Column 5, lines 40-

51).

Inala did not specifically disclose a user logon/logoff toggle button, buttons to manage

and configure collaboration spaces. However Lee disclosed the above limitation (Figure

2, 3, and 15; Column 8, lines 25-32). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Inala's system by incorporating

the teachings of Lee for the purpose of allowing a user to efficiently control their

participation in collaboration sessions (Column 8 lines 29-30 and 33-41).

Regarding claim 12, the rejection of claim 11 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed

a collaboration manager that maintains a life cycle of collaboration spaces (Column 6,

lines 27-29; Column 9, line 62 to Column 10 line 7).

Regarding claim 13, the rejection of claim 11 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed

one or more collaboration servers that implement various modalities of collaboration

operations (Figure 1, item 15; Column 5 line 40 to Column 6 line 37).

Regarding claim 14, the rejection of claim 11 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed

wherein upon monitoring the browsing activity by the monitor, the mining component

mines the browsed content to determine an appropriate set of related collaboration

elements of an appropriately related collaboration space to the browsed content

(Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-52 and line 62 to Column 9, line 6; Column

14, lines 58-64).

Regarding claim 15, the rejection of claim 11 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed

wherein upon mining the browsed content by the mining component, the monitored

browsing activity populates the collaboration toolbar component with appropriately

related collaboration elements (Figure 2; Column 5, lines 40-51; Column 8, lines 49-52

and line 62 to Column 9, line 6).

Regarding claim 16, the rejection of claim 11 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed wherein the collaboration co-browser component renders a collaboration space related to browser context (Figure 2, item 38).

Regarding claim 17, the rejection of claim 11 is incorporated and further Inala disclosed wherein collaboration operations are instantiated from the collaboration co-browser (Figure 2, item 41 "control panel"; Column 8, line 62 to Column 9, line 6).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim-Lynn Dam whose telephone number is (571) 270-1408. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 7:30-5:00, Friday 7:30-4:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chameli Das can be reached on (571) 272-3696. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
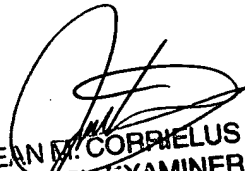
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Kim-Lynn Dam
Art Unit 2112

JEAN M. CORNIELUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Art Unit 962